

RSM Power Your Transition Community College Scholarship FAQ

What is the RSM Power Your Transition Community College scholarship?

The RSM US Foundation is pleased to present the RSM Power Your Transition Community College scholarship program to help students who earn an associate's degree between December 2024 and August 2025 pursue a bachelor's degree in business or technology. To build tomorrow's leaders and power their transition to a 4-year college or university, the RSM US Foundation is granting 10 students with \$10,000 scholarships each for the 2025/2026 academic year, with a total of \$100,000 awarded through the program.

Each scholarship will be paid directly to the recipient's college/university in two \$5,000 payments (fall 2025 and spring 2026) and applied to the recipient's tuition and/or room and board.

In addition to the scholarship funds, each recipient will be invited to attend an optional information session (however, no alternate opportunity will be offered if they do not).

What if I already receive scholarships or financial aid?

The scholarship funds will be paid to the college/university directly for invoiced expenses to include tuition, on-campus housing and/or dining plans. Scholarship funds cannot be applied to off-campus housing or be paid to the recipient directly so you must have eligible expenses to receive the scholarship.

Who is eligible to apply for this scholarship?

The program is open to U.S. citizen, U.S. permanent resident (holder of a Permanent Resident card), individual granted deferred action status under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program (DACA), or an individual with refugee/asylee/temporary protected status and qualified as an alien authorized to work. Applicants must be:

- At least 18 years of age.
- On track to or have graduated from a qualifying community college with an associate's degree between December 2024 and August 2025.
- Pursuing a bachelor's degree in business or technology at an accredited four-year college or university in the United States or District of Columbia with courses beginning in fall 2025.
- A student in good standing with a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or above.

Refer to terms and conditions for full description of eligibility.

Who is not eligible for the scholarship?

Full-time and/or part-time employees, temporary employees, partners, principals, and contractors (and their immediate family members) of RSM US LLP, Risk & Regulatory Consulting, LLC, their respective affiliated entities and the RSM US Foundation.

Do I have to major in business or technology when I go to an accredited four-year college/university?

Yes, any change in major outside of business or technology will forfeit future scholarship payments.

Do I need to be a full-time student when I am pursuing my bachelor's degree?

Yes, you need to be a full-time student at an accredited four-year college or university when pursuing your bachelor's degree to qualify for this award.

When is the deadline to apply?

Eligible students may submit their applications between 12:01 a.m. Central Time on March 1, 2025 and 11:59 p.m. Central Time, April 30, 2025. Only one application per student is allowed.

What do I need to do to apply?

- **IMPORTANT:** Your video and statement must be created solely by you without the use of material from preexisting written or visual works or assistance from artificial intelligence (“AI”), including but not limited to generative AI writing assistants or video creators.
- Video:
 - You will need to create a 30 to 60 second video demonstrating which of RSM’s 5 C’s (described in the terms and conditions) you think comes most naturally to (and best fits) you.
 - Your video must contain only original content. It is recommended to simply capture yourself and to not include other people, photos, videos, music or content other than you to comply with the terms and conditions of this scholarship.
 - Upload your video to YouTube. Please select “Unlisted” from the visibility settings when you upload your video on YouTube, so that your Video is not publicly available.
 - You will need the link to your video when submitting your application.
- Statement: You will need to craft a personalized statement of up to 1,500 characters on what motivates you to grow forward to pursue a bachelor’s degree in business or technology from a college or university
- Unofficial transcript: You will need to obtain a copy of your unofficial transcript.
- Once you’ve gathered all these items, proceed to the next FAQ response regarding how to submit your application.

How do I submit my scholarship application?

When you have your unlisted YouTube video link, statement and unofficial transcript, visit <https://rsmus.com/careers/starting-your-career/scholarships/power-your-transition-scholarship.html> to apply.

- Review the scholarship program description and Terms and Conditions.
- Click the link to “Apply for the scholarship.”
- When on the GrantsConnect login page, sign in or click “Create account” to complete the applicant registration form.
- If you created a new account, check your email for the registration confirmation and click “Get Started” to verify your email address to activate your account.
- Return to the application by clicking “Apply for the scholarship” and sign in.
- Click “Start new application” and answer the eligibility questions on the next screen—students who meet the eligibility requirements will be prompted to begin the application.
- Complete the form questions, upload an unofficial copy of your transcript, complete the statement, provide a link to your unlisted YouTube video and then click “Submit.”
- You will be unable to edit your application once submitted.
- You will be sent an email confirming your application was submitted.
- If you create an initial draft application that you do not submit, GrantsConnect will send you reminders to apply before the deadline.

How are recipients selected?

A panel of judges, selected by RSM US Foundation, will review and judge each application based on GPA (30%), quality of the video (40%) and quality of the statement (30%). Judges will grade the video and statement each on a scale of one to seven, with seven being the highest score. In judging the video, judges will evaluate the applicant’s passion, thoughtfulness, and creativity in conveying how the selected “C” from RSM’s 5 C’s comes most naturally to (and best fits) them. The judges will evaluate the statement based on creativity, quality of writing and reflection of the applicant’s individuality. The ten applicants that receive the highest scores based upon the judging criteria will be deemed recipients of scholarships.

When will I know if I am selected?

The RSM US Foundation will attempt to notify selected recipients in May 2025.

What if I have questions or an issue submitting my application?

For scholarship-specific questions, please contact rsm Scholarships@rsmus.com. For technical questions about the application website, please contact rsmus-support@yourcause.com.

I did not receive an award this year. May I apply again next year?

This program is only open to recent community college graduates who are enrolling in a four-year college in by fall 2025, so while you may not apply again next year, we recommended reading the requirements for the [Power Your Education](#) and [First Generation](#) scholarships to see if you are eligible.